

**Congress of the United States**  
**Washington, DC 20515**

September 12, 2017

The President  
The White House  
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. President:

We write to urge you to grant Temporary Protected Status (TPS) to the foreign nationals now in the United States who are from Hurricane Irma-affected regions in the Caribbean. While Congress and the Administration work to provide relief for those affected by devastation from Irma in our own country, we must also support our friends in the Caribbean.

Hurricane Irma is a storm of unprecedented measure. With maximum wind speeds of 185 miles-per-hour made it the second-fastest recorded hurricane in history. Requiring those in the United States to return to their countries under the present conditions would be a serious threat to their safety.


The affected regions clearly meet the criteria for Temporary Protected Status designation. The destruction it has left behind is unprecedented. Charles Fernandez, Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Trade for Antigua and Barbuda, has reported that "upwards of 90 percent" of Barbuda has been destroyed. The most recent reports have moved that number closer to 95 percent. Seven thousand Dominicans have already been displaced as more than 2,000 houses were destroyed by the Hurricane. The casualty toll is slowly rising as deaths have been reported in Barbuda and Saint Martin. The economies of the affected areas have been completely destroyed and will take years to rebuild.

Providing nationals of the affected areas with an opportunity to remain temporarily in the United States will contribute to greater stability and significantly aid in the ongoing mission of reconstruction. We hope you will act as quickly as possible to grant them the protected status they deserve.

Sincerely,

Eliot L. Engel

Ilana Ros-Lehtinen


Barbara Lee	Cap. Conf
	Ray H. J.

Gray C. Plaskett	Yvette D. Clarke
------------------	------------------

Kathy Cast	Lucille Sybil Allard
------------	----------------------

Sheila Jackson Lee	Bobby L. Pickens
--------------------	------------------

Danny H. Davis	W. H. R.
----------------	----------

	Rick Warren
---	-------------

Lezang White

Theresa

Kan Bann

David M. Cullin

Donna

Betty McCall

Nydia Velazquez

Ronda J. Sams

Ernest

John

Al Moore

John E. Smith

David D. Hastings

John

Don H. Johnson

Eddie B. Johnson

Don V. Contreras

Gudy Chen

John Lopez

John P. Linder

Aed W. Dwyer

Frederica J. Wilson

August E. ...

Donald S. Beyer

R. H. ...

Juan Vargas

Mark ...

[Signature]

MARK 

Alan Loventhal

Erin Gruenell

Ann McFane Foster

Frank Pallone Jr.

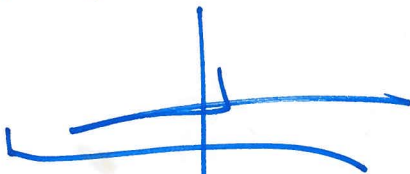
Ted W. Lee

Michelle Lujan Grisham

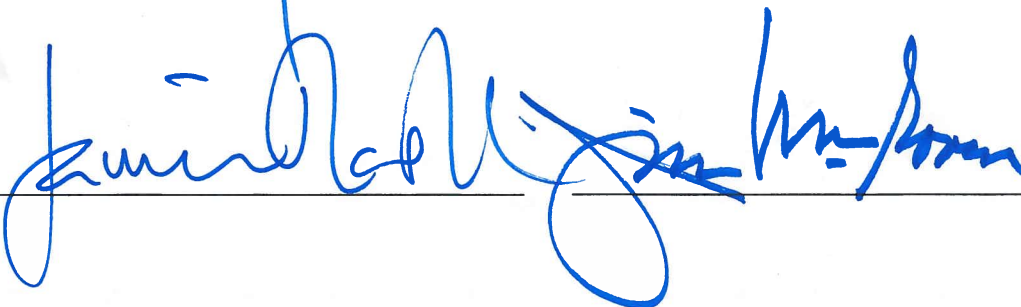
L.O. Chl



Pramita Jayshankar



Charlie Crist





Phil Falco Joachim Costa

Jimmy Gomez J. A.

Robert Kelly Al Lause

Art Hill Katharine M. Clark

Pam Sato Kathleen Rice

Rail M. Hinder Mh. Jure

Gen. T. Ngatchou M. V.

The President  
September 12, 2017  
Page Seven

Norma D'Ton      Bob  
J Luis Cerna      Debbie Wasserman Schultz

cc:    Acting Secretary Elaine Duke, Department of Homeland Security  
       Secretary Rex Tillerson, Department of State

### **Attachment: List of Signatories**

1. Rep. Eliot L. Engel
2. Rep. Ilena Ros-Lehtinen
3. Rep. Barbara Lee
4. Rep. Carlos Curbelo
5. Rep. Adriano Espaillat
6. Rep. Thomas A. Garrett Jr.
7. Rep. Stacey E. Plaskett
8. Rep. Yvette D. Clarke
9. Rep. Kathy Castor
10. Rep. Lucille Roybal-Allard
11. Rep. Sheila Jackson Lee
12. Rep. Bobby L. Rush
13. Rep. Danny K. Davis
14. Rep. Eleanor Holmes Norton
15. Rep. André Carson
16. Rep. Rick Larsen
17. Rep. Gregory W. Meeks
18. Rep. Henry C. "Hank" Johnson Jr.
19. Rep. Karen Bass
20. Rep. David N. Cicilline
21. Rep. Gwen Moore
22. Rep. Betty McCollum
23. Rep. Nydia M. Velázquez
24. Rep. Linda T. Sánchez
25. Rep. Emanuel Cleaver
26. Rep. Albio Sires
27. Rep. Al Green
28. Rep. José E. Serrano
29. Rep. Alcee L. Hastings
30. Rep. Janice D. Schakowsky
31. Rep. Bennie G. Thompson
32. Rep. Eddie Bernice Johnson
33. Rep. Luis V. Gutiérrez
34. Rep. Judy Chu
35. Rep. John Conyers Jr.
36. Rep. John P. Sarbanes
37. Rep. Theodore E. Deutch
38. Rep. Frederica S. Wilson
39. Rep. Dwight Evans
40. Rep. Donald S. Beyer Jr.
41. Rep. Robert C. "Bobby" Scott



42. Rep. Juan Vargas
43. Rep. Hakeem S. Jeffries
44. Rep. John K. Delaney
45. Rep. Mark DeSaulnier
46. Rep. Alan S. Lowenthal
47. Rep. Eric Swalwell
48. Rep. Ann M. Kuster
49. Rep. Frank Pallone Jr.
50. Rep. Ted Lieu
51. Rep. Michelle Lujan Grisham
52. Rep. Salud O. Carbajal
53. Rep. Ruben J. Kihuen
54. Rep. Pramila Jayapal
55. Rep. Colleen Hanabusa
56. Rep. Charlie Crist
57. Rep. Jamie Raskin
58. Rep. James P. McGovern
59. Rep. Ruben Gallego
60. Rep. Joaquin Castro
61. Rep. Jimmy Gomez
62. Rep. James A. Himes
63. Rep. Robin L. Kelly
64. Rep. Al Lawson Jr.
65. Rep. Seth Moulton
66. Rep. Katherine M. Clark
67. Rep. Darren Soto
68. Rep. Kathleen M. Rice
69. Rep. Raúl M. Grijalva
70. Rep. Grace F. Napolitano
71. Rep. Marc A. Veasey
72. Rep. Norma J. Torres
73. Rep. Ro Khanna
74. Rep. J. Luis Correa
75. Rep. Debbie Wasserman Schultz